

GLBT CANDIDATES IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION -- APRIL 27

VALLEY PRESS

THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S
GAY & LESBIAN OPINION & NEWS PAPER

VOL. 7 NO. 3

APRIL 2004

SERVING THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY SINCE 1998!



**PRIDE
FESTIVAL
JUNE 20
MARK YOUR
CALENDER!**

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The only question that remains is, what will you do? No one gets to sit this battle out. To remain silent is to support the amendment. Not to register and vote is to shame and dishonor our heroes." -- activist David Mixner on the battle for legal marriage rights.

HAVEN YOUTH PROM

HAVEN to pleased to present PRIZM PROM, the First Ever Prom for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Questioning and Allied Youth in the Lehigh Valley & Surrounding Areas. For more info on this chaperoned event see page 3.

The Greater Lehigh Valley's Premier

prizmprom
A Celebration for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Allied (GLBTQA) Youth

**Friday, May 21st 2004
8:00 PM - MIDNIGHT
Radisson Hotel Bethlehem**

Tickets \$25.00 per person
\$40.00 per couple

Ages 14 - 20*

Formal attire is strongly recommended, black tie optional
2004 Prizm Prom Court crowning at 10:30PM

Brought to you by
HAVEN

A group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Allied Youth
Tickets can be purchased at HAVEN's regular Wed. 7-9pm meetings at UUCLV, 424 Center St., Bethlehem

for more information, how to purchase tickets and merchant discounts visit

www.prizmprom.com

*Guests wishing to attend the prom who are not between the ages of 14 and 20 must contact HAVEN at havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com or 610.868.2153

BERMILIN REMOVES ANTI-GAY AMENDMENTS BUT TELLS STATE HE'LL TAKE FUTURE ANTI-GAY ACTION

SEE PAGE 6 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

READING MEET UP

LGBT Activists in Reading are organizing a Gay Rights Meet Up through Meetup.com. The Reading Meet Up will be held on Tuesday, April 13 @ 8:00PM (The 2nd Tuesday of every month). John Morgan has taken the lead in organizing the meet up. Please visit www.meetup.com to join the meet up. John has nominated Barnes & Noble Booksellers at 2751 Paper Mill Rd, Reading, PA as the location of the meet up. Please vote for this location at <http://gayrights.meetup.com/370>.

John Morgan hopes to use the meet up to get more people involved in working for LGBT Rights in the Reading Area; to recruit people to participate in the political process and to form a local organization for The Pennsylvania Gay And Lesbian Alliance (PA-GALA) the largest lgbt political organization in the commonwealth.

MCC HOLIDAY SERVICES

ANNUAL SEDER MEAL:
Thursday, April 8

MCCLV gathers on Holy Thursday for its annual Seder Meal. Please phone the church office at 610-709-8800 to reserve a seat.

Easter: Sunday, April 11
MCCLV invites the community to its Easter Sunday services, held at the church.

Easter Sunrise Service: 6 am,
Led by PJ Kochan

Refreshments served afterwards.
Easter Day & Evening Services:
10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. services
Rev. Elizabeth Goudy preaching.
Following the 10:30 a.m. service, a potluck Easter Dinner will be held at the church. All welcome, please bring a dish to share.

PRIMARY ELECTION APRIL 27

**IF YOU ARE A LEHIGH COUNTY
DEMOCRAT, YOU CAN VOTE FOR
GLBT COMMUNITY CANDIDATES.**

**DONNA CRUCIANI & ROB HOPKINS
ARE RUNNING FOR DELEGATE TO THE
NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.
YOU CAN VOTE FOR BOTH
DONNA AND ROB!**

Donna Cruciani is one of only two GLBT Pennsylvania delegates pledged to Kerry.



**DONNA BEGAN THE
GLOW ORG. AT PPL**

What's That About?



Readers write or email
"What's That About?"
editors with questions
about gay and lesbian issues.



Dear WTA: What is the policy on articles about events that appear in the VFP? **Signed, Group Organizer**

Dear G.O., Good question. The basic policy is this: Valley Free Press will include any article about events of interest to the local GLBT community if the event is: Supporting a local GLBTA friendly not-for-profit (NFP) group in some way or is of interest to the GLBT community as news. That means we will include the events of all local GLBTA NFP groups, as we have been doing for 6 years. However, we also encourage for-profit enterprises to hold events which support or benefit NFPs. We'll cover those events too.

Of course, we are working under a few other constraints. Obviously this is a small paper. We try to include between 40 and 50 articles every month. The production and printing of this paper is paid for by the publishers -- Liz Bradbury and Trish Sullivan. PA-GALA has nothing to do with the Valley Free Press, other than paying the postage to mail it to its members.

The Valley Free Press has no advertising in it, so it makes no money. We do not charge any organization to post information in the paper. On rare occasion, we accept a mailer to be stuffed into the paper. We charge a small fee for that. This month Equality has paid for the inclusion of a mailer and we charged them \$50. Here are some of the other constraints that influence the publication of articles about events.

1. We must get it by the publication deadline (the 21st of the previous month)
2. The press release must make sense and have necessary information.
3. The group must be GLBT-friendly or GLBT-supportive.
4. The event must not be harmful to the community.
5. The information in the article or about the event must be true.
6. The article must not demean or negatively criticize the efforts of other groups or individuals who are trying to do positive things in the community.
7. We must have the space to include it.
8. The information is appropriate for all people to read.

Priority is given to events or articles that are: local to the Lehigh Valley; of interest to many people; not too far in advance; an effort to further pro-GLBT civil rights; positive in approach; not in direct conflict with other events; and are sent to us directly by the group or organization in a short, clear press release. We also reserve the right to make decisions about things as they come up.

Everything in the VFP begins with the incontestable opinion that the value of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender lives is to be celebrated, not debated. **LB**

WDIY-FM ANNOUNCES NEW SATURDAY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

WDIY, Community Public Radio in the Lehigh Valley, has changed its Saturday afternoon-evening program line-up. Bluesville: blues, soul and R&B music, is now airing 3 PM to 6 PM. This Way Out, the on-air gay and lesbian radio news program, airs from 6 to 6:30 PM, followed by Assorted Women, music by, for and about women, at 6:30 PM until 8 PM. Good Clean Fun, an up-beat earful of the latest new and alternative music, takes to the airwaves at its expanded time, 8 PM until 11 PM. WDIY is member-supported community public radio, and can be heard in the Allentown/Bethlehem area at 88.1 FM, in the Easton/Phillipsburg area at 93.9 FM and around the world at www.wdiy.org

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RAGS TO RICHES TAKE THE FIRST STEP

by Denise McKelvey®

Dear Denise, My partner and I would like to buy a home, but our credit isn't great. How can we qualify for the low interest rates that are advertised for mortgage loans? **Signed, Future Homeowners**

Dear FH, Mortgage rates are currently in the 5.38% range. Now may be the time to become a homeowner and affix your rainbow flag proudly above your garage door. I will identify what "good credit" entails. First, find out your risk score from all three credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian and Trans Union). A risk score of 640 and above will usually qualify you for the lowest interest rates. In addition to the score, there are a few things mortgage companies will consider.

- a.. You cannot have filed for bankruptcy in the last four years and cannot be in a Chapter 13 bankruptcy repayment plan
- b.. You cannot have accounts placed with a credit counseling service
- c.. You cannot have outstanding collection accounts, IRS tax liens, child support liens, judgments or chargeoffs.
- d.. You cannot have had a foreclosure on any property in the last four years.

If you cannot meet these criteria, you will most likely not qualify for the best interest rates advertised in the media. So now what? Do you just give up? Giving up is not in my book. Find a way to solve the problem.

Depending on your credit profile, you could qualify for financing with extra money down. This may mean waiting a little longer and saving for the larger down payment. Another solution is to ask your seller to carry financing. It would reduce the amount of money you would need for the down payment.

Some lenders will allow mini second mortgages on their loans of up to 5 percent. For instance, say you qualify for \$170,000 and the home you want to buy is \$200,000. With a second mortgage, you can reduce your down payment to \$20,000 instead of \$30,000.

Sub prime loans can include the "zero-down" loan programs. These usually require better credit but you can purchase a home with a 100 percent loan, which would require you to bring in the closing costs at settlement.

Government loans can get you into a home with questionable credit. FHA loans do not use credit-scoring models to make underwriting decisions. With these loans, you may be able to own the home with 3 percent down or less. You must also be at least two years away from any bankruptcy or foreclosure.

Finding a home for you and your partner in a gay friendly neighborhood can be challenging, but also exciting. The whole process can be a chore. Once it is completed and you have a yard large enough for your three dogs, you can relax and fall into the new routine.

Denise McKelvey, CFS is a financial advisor for American Express Financial located at 5100 Tilghman Street Suite 170 Allentown PA 18104. Please mail or email questions to denise.mckelvey@aexp.com. Information contained in this article may not be suitable for your specific financial situation.

ACCO TO PERFORM APRIL 30

ACCO, A Chorus Celebrating Women, will perform at Godfrey Daniels in Bethlehem at 8pm on April 30.

FOR LEGAL INFO ON 2ND PARENT ADOPTION

...or if your lawyer has questions call The Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights in Philadelphia toll free at 1-866-LGBT-LAW.

Valley Free Press does not discriminate on the bases listed in the anti-discrimination statement on page 8, and asks that organizations or individuals which request VFP to publish information about their events maintain a similar policy.

HOT NEWS

B&N GLBT BOOK CLUB

The Barnes and Noble GLBT Book Discussion Group meets the second Thursday of each month from 7:30-9:00PM in the cafe, at the Whitehall Store. PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TIME. Each participant will receive a complimentary beverage.

Thursday, April 8 at 7:30PM: Ann Patchett's "The Magician's Assistant." The use of the dream world and the world of magic effectively weaves a tale of death, deception and illusion. The magician's wife meets the late magician's gay lover in a dream which sparks her emotional awakening.

Thursday, May 13 also at 7:30PM: A first novel is the subject of May's selection. "Other Girls" by Diane Ayres is an engrossing story about life at a women's college where you are perceived as either a virgin, a debutante, or one of the rumored lesbian vampires.

Books for the May and June meetings will be selected at the April meeting. EVERYONE is welcome. For information, contact Barnes and Noble at: crm2636@bn.com.

HAVEN YOUTH GROUP

HAVEN MEETINGS : every Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:00PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem. Meetings are open to GLBTAQ youth ages 14 - 20. For information: havenfacilitators@yahoo.com or 610-868-2153.

PRIDE INFO

See Pride's new On-Line Planner at:
http://www.prideglv.org/planner/prideplanner_04_Jan.htm

MCCLV MOVIES

Lenten Movie Series -- At MCCLV
Free food! Subs, chips and drinks provided! 7 p.m. every Wednesday of Lent
Come together to discuss the religious themes in contemporary movies.
April 7, Topic: Being Yourself, Movie: "Boys Don't Cry"
***Some of these movies contain adult themes, sexuality, foul language, and violent scenes. No one under the age of 18 will be permitted without a parent or guardian. Please register for the entire series or just one movie by e-mailing MCCLV at mcclhighvalley@yahoo.com or calling 610-709-8800.

STEVIE Z SCHEDULE

Allentown's own Stevie Z will be appearing at the MooseLounge on Fridays April 16, May 21 and June 18 from 9PM-Midnite. Many of your friends are finding this is a FUN, relaxing way to wind down after a busy week. There is NO COVER CHARGE and your tips/donations can make a BIG difference in our lives. For the months of April and May, 1/2 of StevieZ's tips will be donated to Lambda Legal to help preserve and expand our rights on a national level. NOW more than ever - YOUR help is needed. Check out Stevie's NEW web page at: <http://steviezpa.tripod.com/>.

PFLAG TIMES

PFLAG - Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays, www.eastern-pa-pflag.org. e-mail: info@eastern-pa-pflag.org. Meeting locations: LV - 1st Tues., 61st Pres. Church, Allentown. 610-967-5219. Reading - 3rd Tues., Unitarian Universalist Church, Reading. 610-967-5219. Monroe - 1st Wed., Eastern Monroe Public Library, Stroudsburg. 570-620-1234.

The next PFLAG meeting dates are:

Allentown: April 6, May 4

Monroe: April 7, May 5

Reading: April 20, May 18

GLOSS EVENTS

GLOSS Bowling - Friday, April 9 at the Allentown Rose Bowl starting at 8:30pm
GLOSS Annual Spring Extravaganza - Saturday, May 22 GLOSS is having their annual start of season event which includes volleyball, a picnic and game night. Festivities start at 2pm and continue until midnight.

For information please call 610-434-2966, email Info@gloss.org or web at www.gloss.org

LEHIGH U. EVENTS

Monday, April 19-Friday, April 23

Visibility Matters:

LGBTQ Awareness Days

Selected Events:

Monday, April 19, 7pm,

Whitaker Auditorium

Panel Discussion on Same-Sex Marriage

Wednesday, April 21, All Day

Day of Silence

Thursday, April 22, 8pm,

Whitaker Auditorium

Panel Discussion on LGBTQ Issues and

Spirituality

For more information, please email safespace@lehigh.edu

ALL TOGETHER NOW

"Gay Faithful - Equal before God", a worship event conducted by All Together Now, on Saturday June 12, 2004 at St. John's Lutheran, Allentown. The speaker will be Rt. Rev. Paul Marshall, Bishop - Diocese of Bethlehem, Episcopal Church. The service is planned for early afternoon. Stay tuned for more details.

HEPC & HIV SUPPORT GROUP

Coinfected with HIV and HepC? Join a support group every third Thursday of the month from 6 - 7:30pm at the Lehigh Valley Hospital School of Nursing auditorium. Call Judy at 610-402-2922 for more information. Sponsored by HepTREC and Lehigh Valley Hospital AAO.

GLORA

The Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown (GLORA) meets frequently for social events. For info write GLORA at GLORAINPA@aol.com or GLORA PO Box 541, Bethlehem, PA 18016-0541.

HAVEN PRESENTS PRIZM YOUTH PROM

HAVEN is pleased to present PRIZM PROM, the First Ever Prom for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Questioning and Allied Youth in the Lehigh Valley & Surrounding Areas.

The event is being held Friday, May 21, 2004 from 8pm - midnight at the Radisson Hotel in Bethlehem, PA. This chaperoned event is open to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Questioning and Allied Youth between the Ages 14-20. Guests wishing to attend the prom who are not between the ages of 14-20, must contact HAVEN to get prior approval.

Tickets are \$25.00 per person, or \$40.00 per couple and will go on sale April 7. Formal attire is strongly recommended, black tie optional. The 2004 Prizm Prom Court will be crowned at 10:30pm. The event will be alcohol, substance & smoke free. For more info, to purchase tickets, or for details on merchant discounts, visit www.prizmprom.com or contact HAVEN at havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com or 610.868.2153.

HAVEN is a group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Allied Youth. They meet every Wed. from 7-9pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church of LV (UUCLV) 424 Center St., Bethlehem, PA. Tickets can be purchased at HAVEN meetings.

CALENDAR

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AA --AA meetins on Wednesdays at MCCLV, Beginat 7pm
ACCO-A Chorus Celebrating Women,
AIDS Outreach-112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA 610.435.8424
AIDSWALK- AIDSWALK Lehigh Valley - 610.974.8701 www.regiononline.com/lvaids
ASC- AIDS Service Center 610.974.8701
All Together Now - Supportive Ecumenical Christians, 610-398-1286, bluemountain@entermail.net
BMA- Bucks/Montgomery Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Concerns 215-529-0360
B&N- Barnes and Noble Gay&Lesbian Book Club, White Hall store, Monthly, 7:00pm
CIVIC and **19th St. Theater**, 527 N 19th St, 610-432-8943, <civictheater.com>
Enigma Players-- qacres@prolog.net
equal@agere - email: equal@agere.com
FACT- Fighting AIDS Continuously Together 610.820.5519
GLEE at Air Products
GLISN - at Dun & Bradstreet, <vagrathollow.com/GLISN/>
GLORA- Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown (Social gatherings, various dates) Newsletter- The Tassle. Write to: GLORA, PO Box 541, Bethlehem, PA 18016-0541, email- GLORAIAPA@AOL.COM
GLOSS - Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society, P.O.Box 21862 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 610.434.2966.
GLOW- at PPL
GLSEN-Gay, Lesbian, Straight, Education Network, is on a break -610.967.521
GMLV- Gay Men of the Lehigh Valley, 2nd Saturdays Monthly 7pm, 610-709-8800
HAVEN GLBT Youth Group of the UUCLV - call: 610-868-2153, email: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com
HMFF-Hope Ministry Family Fellowship, Sundays, 11 am, Open Space Gallery, 931 Hamilton St. 610-791-0716
Integrity- Lesbian & Gay Episcopalians Family & Friends meets quarterly. 610-758-8642 gamba.guy@verizon.net
LVGMC -Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus, email: info@lvmgc.org, <www.lvmgc.org> 610-366-3320, rehearsals: Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem
Lehigh Valley Transsexual Coalition- 610-997-5474, humanrights4all@aol.com, 610-814-0530 james30338874@aol.com
MCC - Metropolitan Community Church, Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown Services: 10:30am & 6pm, mcclvlehigh valley@yahoo.com, http://www.mcclv.org 610-709-8800
NCC- Northampton Community College GLB Student Union, 610.861.5541(#1386) or 882-2531
19th St & Civic Theatre - 610.432.8943
Out There- Students at Cedar Crest College
OVOM-LV Documentary Film Org.
PA-GALA - PA Gay And Lesbian Alliance for Political Action, (Candidate Info Booklet, & Political Lobbying) For membership: send \$20 to: P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002 610.432.5449 pa-gala.org
PARENTS- GLBT parent's group: 610-262-2519
PFLAG - LV Parents Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church Allentown 610.967.5219 <HTTP://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org/>
Pride - Pride of the Lehigh Valley, (Pride Festival) 610.770.6200, email: <lvpride@hotmail.com>, <www.pridelv.org>
QuEST - Student group at Lafayette College <QuEST_Lafayette@hotmail.com>

APRIL 2004 VOTE IN THE PRIMARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 GLOSS Skating for PA-GALA RAA	2 MCC Stories	3 WDIY GLOSS
4 WDIY MCC HMFF	5 RAA	6 GLOSS MCC LV PFLAG LVGMC	7 HAVEN MCC MOVIE M PFLAG	8 RAA GLOSS B&N BOOKCLUB MCC SEDER	9 GLOSS BOWLING	10 WDIY GLOSS
11 HMFF WDIY MCC Easter	12 RAA	13 LVGMC Reading Meet-Up	14 HAVEN AA	15 RAA GLOSS PFLAG P	16 StevieZ	17 GLOSS GLORA WDIY GLOSS
18 HMFF MCC WDIY GLOSS	19 RAA Lehigh Panel	20 GLOSS PFLAG R LVGMC	21 HAVEN AA National Day of Silence Lehigh	22 RAA GLOSS	23	24 WDIY GLOSS
25 HMFF MCC WDIY GLOSS	26 GLSEN RAA	27 Primary Election	28 HAVEN AA	29 RAA GLOSS	30	

MAY 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 WDIY GLOSS
2 WDIY HMFF MCC	3 RAA	4 GLOSS MCC LV PFLAG LVGMC	5 HAVEN AA M PFLAG	6 GLOSS RAA	7	8 WDIY GLOSS
9 HMFF WDIY MCC Bowling	10 RAA	11 LVGMC	12 HAVEN AA	13 RAA GLOSS B&N BOOKCLUB	14	15 GLOSS GLORA WDIY GLOSS
16 HMFF MCC WDIY GLOSS	17 RAA	18 GLOSS PFLAG R LVGMC	19 HAVEN AA	20 GLOSS PFLAG P RAA	21 Prizm Prom StevieZ	22 WDIY GLOSS Extravaganza
23 HMFF MCC WDIY GLOSS	24 RAA	25 GLOSS LVGMC	26 HAVEN AA	27 RAA GLOSS	28	29 WDIY GLOSS

JUNE 2004 PRIDE MONTH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 LV PFLAG GLOSS LVGMC	2 HAVEN AA PFLAG M	3 RAA ACCO GLOSS M PFLAG	4 MCC Stories	5 GLOSS
6 HMFF WDIY MCC GLOSS	7 RAA	8 GLOSS LVGMC	9 HAVEN AA	10 RAA ACCO GLOSS B&N BOOKCLUB	11	12 GLOSS WDIY All Together Now
13 HMFF WDIY MCC GLOSS	14 RAA	15 GLOSS LVGMC PFLAG R	16 HAVEN AA	17 ACCO RAA GLOSS	18 StevieZ	19 WDIY GLOSS
20 PRIDE FESTIVAL	21 RAA GLSEN	22 LVGMC GLOSS	23 AA	24 ACCO RAA GLOSS	25	26 GLOSS WDIY
27 GLORA HMFF WDIY MCC GLOSS	28 RAA	29	30 GLOSS LVGMC			

Quakers-Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting-Route
512 1/2 mi. North of Rte 22 Bethlehem, PA.
Worship at 9:30 am. (610)691-3411.
RAA- Rainbow AA meetings, Mon. & Thurs.
At 16th and Turner.
Ren- Renaissance Transgendered Assoc.,
Meets at MCCLV renlv.org
Rainbow Space - Muhlenberg College
Organization 610.821.3244
Reading P-FLAG 610-967-5219
Safe Space-At Lehigh U. 610.758.5973
Saint John's Lutheran Church- A welcoming,
gay affirming church, 32 S. 5th st. Allentown
610.435.1587
Softball-(Women's) call Diamonz, 610.865.1028
Spectrum-At Lehigh Univ., 610.758.5973
T.O. - Theatre Outlet-29 Nth 9th St, Allentown,
610-820-9270.
Unity-26 N. 3rd St. Emmaus, 767-4417
UUCV- Lehigh Valley Universalist Church LV, 424
Center St., Bethlehem, 18018 610.866.7652.
VFP - Valley Free Press, 610.432.5449,
liztrish@aol.com
VYH - Valley Youth House for emotionally
troubled GLBT youth 610.432.6481
Wachovia-GALEA- Gay And Lesbian Employee
Association. Contact GALEA@Wachovia.com
WDIY - WDIY - 88.1 fm 93.9 fm Sat. 6:00 pm This
Way Out, Assorted Women 6:30 pm. 610-694-
8100.88.

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS:

GLBT YOUTH GROUP
HAVEN- WEDNESDAYS
GAY MEN-LV - 2ND SATURDAYS
LV PFLAG - 1ST TUESDAYS
MONROE PFLAG - 1ST THURSDAYS
READING - PFLAG 3RD TUESDAYS
POTTSVILLE PFLAG
- 3RD THURSDAYS
GLOSS VOLLEYBALL -TUESDAYS
GLSEN - IS ON BREAK
GLOSS TENNIS - SUNDAYS
GLOSS RACQUETBALL -TUES & SATS
MCC BOOK STUDY 2ND & 4TH TUES
MCC WALKING - THURSDAYS
MCC READING & COFFEE -
1ST FRIDAYS

APR 1 - GLOSS SKATING
APR 2 - MCC SHORT READINGS
APR 6 - LEHIGH VALLEY PFLAG
APR 7 - MCC 'BOYS DON'T CRY'
APR 7 - MONROE PFLAG
APR 8 - B&N GLBT BOOK CLUB
APR 8 - MCC SEDER
APR 9 - GLOSS BOWLING
APR 11 - MCC EASTER SERVICE
APR 13 - READING MEET UP
APR 16 - STEVIEZ @ MOOSELOUNGE
APR 19 - LEHIGH PANEL DISCUSSION
APR 20 - READING PFLAG
APR 21 - DAY OF SILENCE
APR 22 - LEHIGH PANEL DISCUSSION
APR 27 - PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
APR 30 - ACCO @ GODFREYS
MAY 4 - LV PFLAG
MAY 5 - MONROE PFLAG
MAY 13 - B&N GLBT BOOK CLUB
MAY 18 - READING PFLAG
MAY 21 - PRIZM PROM
MAY 21 - STEVIEZ @
MOOSELOUNGE
MAY 22 - GLOSS EXTRAVAGANZA
JUNE 12 - ALL TOGETHER NOW
JUNE 18 - STEVIEZ @
MOOSELOUNGE
JUNE 20 - LV PRIDE FESTIVAL

INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE!
TO POST INFO: 610-432-5449
LIZTRISH@AOL.COM

SANTORUM EQUATES SAME-SEX MARRIAGE TO TERRORIST ATTACKS

Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA) reacted to President Bush's support of a Constitutional Amendment banning same-sex marriage by saying:
"This is an issue just like 9-11."

PA-GALA strongly condemns Santorum's assertion that there is any similarity between the recognition of the legal rights of committed same-sex couples and the tragic outcomes of the September 11 attacks.

An article that appeared in the Morning Call newspaper in Pennsylvania, titled, "Gay marriage amendment splits state lawmakers, but not by party," (By Jeff Miller), asked lawmakers representing Pennsylvania about their views on President Bush's announcement that he supports a Constitutional Amendment. Among those interviewed was US Senator Rick Santorum, who was quoted in the article as saying:

"This is an issue just like 9-11, we didn't decide we wanted to fight the war on terrorism because we wanted to. It was brought to us.

And if not now, when? When the supreme courts in all the other states have succumbed to the Massachusetts version of the law?"

"Highly placed officials in the Republican party insist that an amendment banning same-sex marriage is not discrimination, but statements like that of Senator Santorum indicate the distorted and homophobic views that are fueling this anti-equality effort by the President and his party," says Liz Bradbury, of the Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Alliance, "No, Mr. Santorum, two senior citizen lesbians who have been together for 50 years obtaining a civil marriage, is not the same as the destruction of the World Trade Center, the murder of thousands of people, or the attack on the Pentagon."

Santorum has spoken against gay and lesbian families in the past, evoking his personal religious views as cause for condemnation of others who do not hold the same view point as himself, but activists see this most recent statement as beyond rational discourse.

PA-GALA calls on all national and state organizations to openly and strongly condemn Santorum's statement and to bring it to the attention of the American people. If the number 3 GOP leader really believes that dealing with same-sex marriage is similar to dealing with horrific attacks by terrorists, then obviously the entire premise for this amendment is based in irrational and insupportable fear and misinformation.

MCC SERVICES IN MAY AND JUNE

May and June at MCCLV worship services, preaching will be Rev.

Elizabeth Goudy:

5/02/04: "Misadventures & Miracles,"

5/09/04: "Nathan: Telling People

What They Want to Hear,"

5/16/04: "Freewill Offering,"

5/23/04: "Does God Take Sides?"

5/30/04: Community Membership: Criteria?"

6/06/04: "I'm Coming Out"

6/13/04: "What Are You Doing?"

6/20/04: "Songs of Faith in Places of Despair,"

6/27/04: "Why It's Sometimes Called 'Song of Songs'" Song of Solomon

RANTS & RAVES BY STEPHEN T. LIBBY

The Passion of the Steve: This month-The 19th St Theatre

Brava to the film board at the 19th St Theatre and the incredible series of high caliber films in February. From Die! Mommie Die! to Monster, I loved them all. Especially The Station Agent and In America. We are fortunate to have an old style movie theatre (with new film sound equipment, new bathrooms and excellent popcorn!) in the LV that caters to those of us who seek more substance than the latest Hollywood shoot 'em up (or more appropriately blow 'em up). These are films that we would otherwise have to travel to Doylestown or Philly to view. But nooooooo, they are delivered practically to our doorstep, a different one weekly for 8-10 weeks or so between plays and musicals. Please support the 19th St. by becoming a member or just by attending the screening of a film. Like one of their pre-show slides suggests, movies are an inexpensive way to see the world. The 19th St is a classy way to take the trip. Next Month: The Return Of Gossip! Gossip! and, oh yeah, more Gossip!

PA-GALA THANKS STEVE & SHAWN

PA-GALA thanks Steve Libby and Shawn Mazzatta and all their friends -- especially Tim and Carol Chadwick -- for their extraordinary generosity and support of The Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Alliance (PA-GALA). Steve's Fabulous 40 birthday party fund raiser for PA-GALA was a huge success. \$1100 was raised for PA-GALA and a great time was had by all. If you weren't there, then hang your head in abject misery, because you missed a great one. Here's to Stephen T. Libby, activist, supporter of the community and good friend. Happy Birthday!!!! You're the greatest!



PARENTHOOD 101

It is beneficial for all new parents to take a class in parenting. Many local hospitals offer these classes. If not that, then buy a book on baby's first year. Additionally, the new parent receives loads of on-the-job training in which a lot is learned by trial and error.

Every new parent is faced with so many previously trivial but now important decisions to make. Whether to breast-feed or use formula and if using formula, whether to use milk-based or soy-based formula. Factors used in making the decision are convenience, nutritional benefits, and the baby's ability to tolerate a particular form of nourishment.

Then there is the question of whether to use cloth diapers or disposable diapers. Do they even make cloth diapers anymore? Again convenience plays a major factor in choosing disposable diapers but there are some parents who chose to be conscientious with respect to the environment and use cloth diapers. Wow!

Choosing a pediatrician is a more difficult task. One can look up names in the phone book but that is hit or miss. The best resource is other parents. Other parents can give invaluable information as to whether a pediatrician has a good "bedside" manner, whether they are responsive in emergencies, and what the office staff is like.

Many of these decisions can be made prior to the arrival of baby, but ultimately changes are made to accommodate the desires of the parent or more importantly the needs of the baby. Speaking of the baby's needs, there are quite a few of those. The need to eat, sleep, be kept warm and dry, be burped, be laid down, be picked up, be rocked, be bathed, be amused, be comforted, etc.

The baby communicates most of these needs with a cry. Some babies are fussy and some are laid back. Translation: some cry more than others do. It is the duty of the parent to satisfy these needs. After a while the parent does begin to anticipate what a baby will need and when, but it takes much patience to get to that point. Patience truly is a virtue.

A word of advice for the new parents it to make time for each other together and/or apart or time alone or out for a single parent. That gives true meaning to the word quality time as there is not much of it, but its value is invaluable both for the child, the parent, and/or the couple.

NEW BUSH APPOINTEE REMOVES FEDERAL WORKER'S ANTI-DISCRIMINATION PROTECTIONS

Gay and lesbians in the entire federal workforce have had their job protections officially removed by the office of Special Counsel. The new Special Counsel, Scott Bloch, says his interpretation of a 1978 law intended to protect employees and job applicants from adverse personnel actions is that gay and lesbian workers are not covered. Bloch was appointed by George W. Bush.

Bloch said that while a gay employee would have no recourse for being fired or demoted for being gay, that same worker could not be fired for attending a gay Pride event. In his interpretation, Bloch is making a distinction between one's conduct as a gay or lesbian and one's status as a gay or lesbian.

This action is particularly negative because during interviews with Congress before his appointment, Bloch answered direct questions about this issue by saying he would continue to protect Federal Workers from discrimination based on sexual orientation. Federal Workers had been protected based on sexual orientation since the 1970s.

6

SCOTT SAYS

By Scott Laubner



CONFESSIONS OF A MR. STONEWALL JUDGE

Every March the Stonewall Bar crowns a new Mr. Stonewall and this year the bar chose yours truly as one of the three judges for the pageant.

The day before the competition, Norberto Melendez, William Santiago, Robert Davis, and Harry Garcia, the four contestants, were interviewed by me and the two other judges about their platforms. And I'm not talking about shoes.

The night of the competition, the Stonewall was abuzz with activity. I took my seat at the judges table. For the opening number, Troy, Mr. Stonewall 2003 led the four men onto the dance floor and performed "One" from A Chorus Line.

Following this routine, Troy took the mic and said "Let's give a big trailer park welcome to the contestants," and introduced them one at a time. While the guys changed for the talent portion of the competition, Kitty Mame Dietrich, Miss Stonewall 2004 and Victoria Lace, Miss Gay Pennsylvania US of 1997, performed to the delight of the audience. Then the guys came back out for some lip synchin' and booty shakin' for the talent competition.

Vanessa Vale, Miss Pennsylvania Gay America 2004, gave the audience the old razzle dazzle, while backstage the boys changed into their bathing suits. Norberto wore a nice suit with sandals and shirt, William wore a form fitting suit with a matching towel, Robert wore a suit from International male with a colorful towel. Harry came out from backstage wearing just his trunks and a smile. Little Debbie and Vanessa Vale performed one more time while the guys changed into their club clothes. Special note to Norberto, your vintage platform shoes were fabulous. My fellow judges and I turned in our last scoring sheets. My official duties done for the evening, I said hello to a charming 7 & 7.

As the scores were being tabulated Troy performed a heart felt last number, lip synchin' to "I Did It My Way" as he packed up his props and tips into his suitcase. Troy has been a consummate Mr. Stonewall and some in the crowd were moved to tears to see his reign end. I always thought Troy was a fantastic entertainer and I hope he continues to perform in the community. The night of the show, Troy raised money for Jerry's Pantry, the charity he supported during his reign. Jerry's Pantry provides PWAs with food and other necessary items.

Finally the crowning. Robert Davis won Mr. Congeniality. William Santiago was first runner up. Harry Garcia, the contestant with infectious smile, is Mr. Stonewall 2004. Congratulations to Harry and all the contestants for a job well done. And thank you to Jimmy Black and the staff of the Stonewall for making me feel so at home.

BIRMELIN WITHDRAWS AMENDMENTS! BUT THREATENS FURTHER ACTION

Rep. Jerry Birmelin withdrew all of his 51 (anti-GLBT) amendments from PA House Bill 345. The original HB 345 -- which was a very good Bill to help agencies place disabled and hard to place kids in adoptive and foster homes, passed unanimously. However, Birmelin has indicated that he will introduce other anti-GLBT bills. So letters and cards should continue to be sent to State Legislators, discouraging anti-GLBT PA legislation.

PA-GALA asks you to please remember to pay your PA-GALA dues. This successful effort came about in part by the cards and letters generated by PA-GALA. PA-GALA mailed over 6000 legislative alerts and 10,000 cards on this issue Printing and mailing costs are covered by membership dues.



LIZ OUT LOUD

By Liz Bradbury
PRIMARY ELECTION PICKS AND PANS

Because the Primary Election is coming up on April 27, I have to write a little about the candidates. Tops on the list for Democrats is voting for GLBT community candidates Donna Cruciani and Rob Hopkins for delegates to the Democratic Convention. You can vote for up to six people, but I suggest just voting for them. It will help them win and represent local GLBT rights at the National Convention.

Otherwise, there are not too many contested Democrat races. But that doesn't mean you shouldn't vote. Be sure to keep up your SUPER VOTER status. Remember, - whether you vote or not is a matter of public record, and candidates and elected officials weigh your opinion against your voting record. If you call their office or write a letter to them or write a letter to the editor, you can bet they'll immediately check to see if you vote in every General and Primary Election. Why should they bother to listen to you if you don't vote? Be sure you do.

Here are some of my Democrat picks: I've spoken to Joe Driscoll, he's running against Rick Orlosky for the Democratic nomination for Congress in the Lehigh Valley. Driscoll seems like a good guy. Orlosky has lost a series of elections and is way too conservative.

There are several Democrat and Republican representatives who supported the PA Hate Crimes Bill and are co-sponsors of the State Employment Civil Rights Bill. Jennifer Mann (D), TJ Rooney (D), Robert Freeman (D) and Pat Brown (R) come to mind.

If there are any GLBT Republicans left, and don't tell me you're a fiscal conservative and a social liberal, the Republican Party, with the highest deficit in history and the current dismal economy is not only socially conservative, but as fiscally irresponsible as any government could get. But anyway, if you're a Republican, you can vote for Arlen Specter (R) over ultra conservative Pat Toomey (R) for U.S. Senator. For Congress in the Republican Primary race, Charlie Dent (R) is an easy choice over the arch conservative attitudes of Joe Pascuzzo (R) and Brian O'Neill (R). O'Neill has actually built his entire campaign on what Morning Call columnist Bill White has humorously and accurately called "the homophobe vote." O'Neill's campaign mailings sport anti-gay rhetoric on every page, complete with pink-shirted guys holding hands. (Where did he get that picture?)

Full information in your PA-GALA Candidate Guides will arrive in the mail in time for you to take to the polls.

HERE'S TO DAVID AND JOE

And also, I'm proud to recount that David Knight and Joe Lazaro got a marriage license in San Francisco just a few days before they stopped issuing them. Joe is a close friend of our family. He lives in Baltimore but has been to our house on occasion and we "talk" via email, now and then. David Knight, Joe's partner, is the son of ultra right wing California State Representative "Pete" Knight. Pete Knight actually authored the anti same-sex marriage law in California.

So David and Joe's marriage is more than just a personal commitment. It is a strong, loud and proud political statement. If your dad based his job on anti-gay measures, would you stand up publicly and denounce his actions? Would it help if you did? Yes, it would. Mary Cheney should do it today. Congratulations David and Joe!

SEVEN SENSES ENDS BUSINESS

7 Senses, the holistic health center on Broadway in Bethlehem is going out of business on April 30, 2004. The owners report, "Lot's of savings in April, starting at 50% OFF all store merchandise."

7 TRISH'S COLUMN

By Patricia Sullivan
CHANGING VALUES



"King and King" written by Linda de Haan and Stern Nijland and published in 2002 is summarized by the Library of Congress: "When the queen insists that the prince get married and take over as king, the search for a suitable mate does not turn out as expected." For the parents of a North Carolina school girl, indeed it doesn't. Prince Bertie marries Prince Lee and the book ends with the two princes sharing a kiss, "tastefully" hidden behind a big red heart. Yet perhaps in the most shocking line of the book, the Queen confesses to the Prince, "I don't understand you. ...When I was your age I'd been married twice already."

It has been over fifteen years since "Heather Has Two Mommies" was published. Surely that is time enough for even the most slow witted among us to come to grips with the reality that Heather's parents (two lesbians) were at one time children. But the parents of a Wilmington, North Carolina first grader are holding hostage a copy "King and King" that their daughter brought home from school. They say they are keeping the book until their daughter's elementary school promises to remove the book from its lending library. The father was reported as saying "My child is not old enough to understand something like that, especially when it is not in our beliefs." His objection is the homosexual content of the book, I believe, and not in the book's failure to defend the sanctity of heterosexual marriage.

While "Heather Has Two Mommies" and "Daddy's Wedding" are books about same sex parents, Haan and Nijland's "King and King" and "The Sissy Duckling" by Harvey Fierstein are about gay children and youth. "The Sissy Duckling", Elmer, isn't like other boy ducklings. When the other boys built forts, Elmer made sand castles. When the other boys played football, Elmer put on the half-time show. These books reflect real life through fantasy, just like other story books found in most elementary school libraries.

In the scenario unfolding in North Carolina, the parents say they are worried about the values their daughter may be exposed to by reading "King and King", so they are engaging in civil disobedience at the least or at worst stealing public property by failing to return the book to the library. Their implication that a child who is homosexual can not be the moral equivalent of their own child is presumptive and rude at best and malicious at worst. The school librarian insists that the established "rules" be followed, that the family return the book at once and use the designated complaint procedure to express their views about the appropriateness of this book for the library. In the end the school principal, says that there is a lot of diversity in the school and "What might be inappropriate for one family, in another family is a totally acceptable thing." Thank goodness the principal is our pal!

Yes, this is all about changing values. Our families are becoming more and more visible. With that visibility comes increasing acceptance as more people get to know gay and lesbian families and children. All children need to have access to literature that reflects the realities of their lives. "Dick and Jane" were so straight, white, privileged and 50's. Children who are gay or lesbian or who are growing up in gay and lesbian families need to be able to see their lives reflected in some of the books they read. Every child is unique and these books help children and youth to understand, respect and value their differences. Those differences are what makes every child and their family special.

LGLV CLOSES

The League of Gay and Lesbian Voters (LGLV) in Pittsburgh has closed its doors. LGLV will now no longer function as a Pittsburgh political organization. The Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Alliance (PA-GALA) will seek volunteers in the Pittsburgh area, who may want to work toward opening a regional PA-GALA office in order to provide the Pittsburgh area with candidate information.

POP QUIZ

8

We believe it would improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley if all people were equally protected from unfair discrimination based upon actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry or place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability, or use of a guide animal, in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.

PA-GALA

Valley Free Press

Allentown Human Relations Commission

Safe-Space of Lehigh University

PFLAG Lehigh Valley

ACCO - A Chorus Celebrating Women

GLORA

Pride of the LV

LV Gay Men's Chorus

NCC GLBT Student Union

The Lehigh Valley Labor Party

EQUAL! at Agere

Metropolitan Community Church LV
OutThere - Cedar Crest

9th Street Shelter Allentown

LV Community Action Committee

GLEE at Air Products

FACT

AIDS Outreach

The Unitarian Universalist Church LV

GLOSS

LEPOCO

GLISN of Dun & Bradstreet

AIDS Services Center

Theatre Outlet

Integrity - Bethlehem

The Lehigh Valley Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Civic Theater 19th Street Theatre

The Latin Alliance

The Enigma Players

New Covenant Family Ministries

Properties of Merit

Allentown City Democratic Committee

Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

Muhlenberg Theater Association

To add your organization to this list, call 610-432-5449 or email litzrh@aol.com

QUOTE #1

"I see this as a civil rights issue, that means I support gay civil marriage." -- Julian Bond, chairman of the NAACP

QUOTE #2

"Why not just give marriage to the gay community for the next five or six years and let them refurbish it the way they do run-down neighborhoods? Then once they have restored it to its original authentic beauty, plus added all the modern upgrades, heterosexuals can be permitted to return and continue their pattern of systematic debasement". -Award-winning humorist Merrill Markoe

QUOTE #3

"Don't kid yourself that a ban on same-sex marriage will not hurt your gay and lesbian friends, relatives, and colleagues," he told the convention. "It will. Believe me, it will hurt me." Openly Gay Mass. State Sen. Jarrett T. Barrios (D-Cambridge)

QUOTE #4

"Simply put, civil unions do not provide any of the more than 1,000 protections or securities afforded under federal law through a marriage license." -- HRC President Cheryl Jacques on the difference between civil union and civil marriage

QUOTE #5

"Contrary to the President's statement, our courts were not created to enforce the will of the people, but to enforce and interpret the law. Mr. Bush ought to understand this, given that he sits in the White House because of court action, not the will of the people." -- Matt Foreman, Executive Director, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

QUOTE #6

"When Bushes get in trouble, they look around for a politically advantageous bogeyman. Lee Atwater tried to make Americans shudder over the prospect of Willie Horton arriving on their doorstep; and now Karl Rove wants Americans to shudder at the prospect of a lesbian -- Dick Cheney's daughter Mary, say -- setting up housekeeping next door with her wife." -- New York Times Columnist Maureen Dowd

Distelfink
by Ruby Zebu

"Lose that unwanted CARB" 4/04

You owe it to your fellow Americans to go on the No-CARB Diet in 2004!

No Cheney
No Ashcroft
No Rumsfeld
No Bush



Thanks to Tom Endy for this thought

The editorial columns and political cartoon that appear in Valley Free Press express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of this publication. VFP makes no indication of the sexual orientation of persons, organizations, or businesses mentioned in any issue.

1. Rhea County, Tennessee Commissioners recently rescinded their obtuse decision to ignore federal law and declare homosexuality illegal. Rhea County is also famous for: A. Convicting high school teacher John T. Scopes for teaching evolution. B. Keeping there anti-interacial marriage laws on the books C. Disallowing women to vote D. Arming themselves against outerspace alien attack

2. Methodist Minister Rev. Karen Dammann, was put on trial by the Church for being openly lesbian and marrying her partner in Oregon. The Church trial sought to determine if Church doctrine required she be removed from being a pastor. The trial decision by 15 church elders was overwhelmingly to: A. find her guilty and remove her as pastor B. find her guilty but allow her to remain a pastor C. acquit her but remove her as pastor D. acquit her and allow her to remain a pastor

3. The Oregon Supreme Court decision on the legality of same-sex marriage will probably be made by: A. Apr. '04 B. Fall '04 C. 2006 D. 2008

4. An anti-gay family has taken and refuses to return the child's book ____ from a NC school library. A. The Sissy Duckling B. King and King C. Heather has Two Mommies D. Daddy's Roommate

5. An Alberta, Canada police force diversity training requires officers to walk down the street: A. dressed as women B. holding hands with a same-gender officer C. wearing make-up D. in a gay neighborhood

6. A 1958 poll found that ____ percent of whites disapproved of marriages between blacks and whites. A. 55 B. 68 C. 82 D. 96

7. ____ said this month: Gay and lesbian people have families, and their families should have legal protection, whether by marriage or civil union." A. Coretta Scott King B. Rosie O'Donnell C. Barney Frank D. Nancy Pelosi

8. A complainer said a gay couple was moving in across the street and wanted to know what he could do to improve the quality of the neighborhood. Who responded: You could move. A. Dear Abby B. Dr. Phil C. The Advice Goddess D. Ann Landers

9. Openly gay actor Jack Larsen played what 1950s TV character? A. Tonto B. Hopalong Cassidy C. Jimmey Olsen D. Clarabelle

10. On Green Acres, who was the crossdressing character? A. Ralph Monroe B. Arnold Ziffle C. Mr. Kimble D. Lisa Douglas

1. A 2. D 3. A 4. B 5. B 6. D 7. A 8. A 9. C 10. A

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SAME-SEX MARRIAGE RIGHTS

THINGS ARE CHANGING EVERYDAY,

THIS IS WHERE WE ARE NOW

BY LIZ BRADBURY

Massachusetts:

What has happened: The State Supreme Court of Massachusetts has required that the state recognize same-sex marriage beginning on May 17, 2004. Though some in the Mass. legislature may vote to put a State Constitutional Amendment banning same-sex marriage on the ballot for a vote by the people, the soonest that could happen would be in 2006. Same-sex couples will marry after May 17.

Where we are now: The State Legislature is on recess and comes back in session on March 11. They will resume the debate on the amendment. If the amendment is not voted on in this session, the possibility of it coming to a vote by the people will move even farther back.

What could stop it: A legal loophole may temporarily stop out of state people from getting licenses, however, it does not seem as though Massachusetts same-sex couples can be stopped from legally marrying after May 17. If the State Constitution is ultimately changed to ban same-sex marriage, there is a chance that the marriages already preformed could be nullified.

San Francisco:

What has happened: The S.F. Mayor has issued marriage licenses to same-sex couples and 3300+ same-sex couples have been married. However they will not be fully legal until the State Supreme Court of California decides that denying same-sex couples marriage is discriminatory ..

Where we are now: San Francisco has sued the State to compel Supreme Court scrutiny .. The case is now in the lower courts.

What could stop it: A Supreme Court of California decision that same-sex couples are not entitled to equal rights.

New York: New Paltz

What has happened: The Mayor of New Paltz married same-sex couples, but the local Clerk of the Courts refused to issue the licenses. The marriages have little chance of becoming legal.

Where we are now: The State has charged the Mayor criminally for doing marriages without licenses.

What could stop it: It never really had a chance.

New York: Ithaca

What has happened: The Mayor of Ithaca says she wants to issue same-sex marriage licenses. She has agreed to sue the state insisting that the State Supreme Court will find that denying same-sex couples equal marriage rights unconstitutional discrimination.

Where we are now: Process is just beginning. This is a better possibility than New Paltz. The Mayor of New York city is being asked to issue licenses as well. He has not decided. (In my opinion, if he does, we will get marriage rights, because so many NYC same-sex couples will get married, the rights will be impossible to deny).

What could stop it: A Supreme Court of New York decision that same-sex couples are not entitled to equal rights.

Oregon: Portland

What has happened: The Mayor of Portland has suggested the city will begin issuing licenses to same-sex couples. The Constitution of Oregon is probably the most likely to be interpreted in our favor.

Where we are now: Process just beginning.

What could stop it: A Supreme Court of Oregon decision that same-sex couples are not entitled to equal rights.

Civil Union only grants the state rights for the state in which it is issued. Civil Union does not grant federal Rights (there are 1000 federal Marriage rights) And Civil Union is not recognized outside of the state it is issued.

Civil Marriage will grant state and federal rights. A Civil Marriage performed in one state will ultimately be recognized in all of the United States because of the full faith and credit clause of the US Constitution.

As long as one state begins to recognize same-sex marriage, the only thing that will block the national recognition of legal civil marriage for same-sex couples in every state is an amendment to the US Constitution banning same-sex marriage.

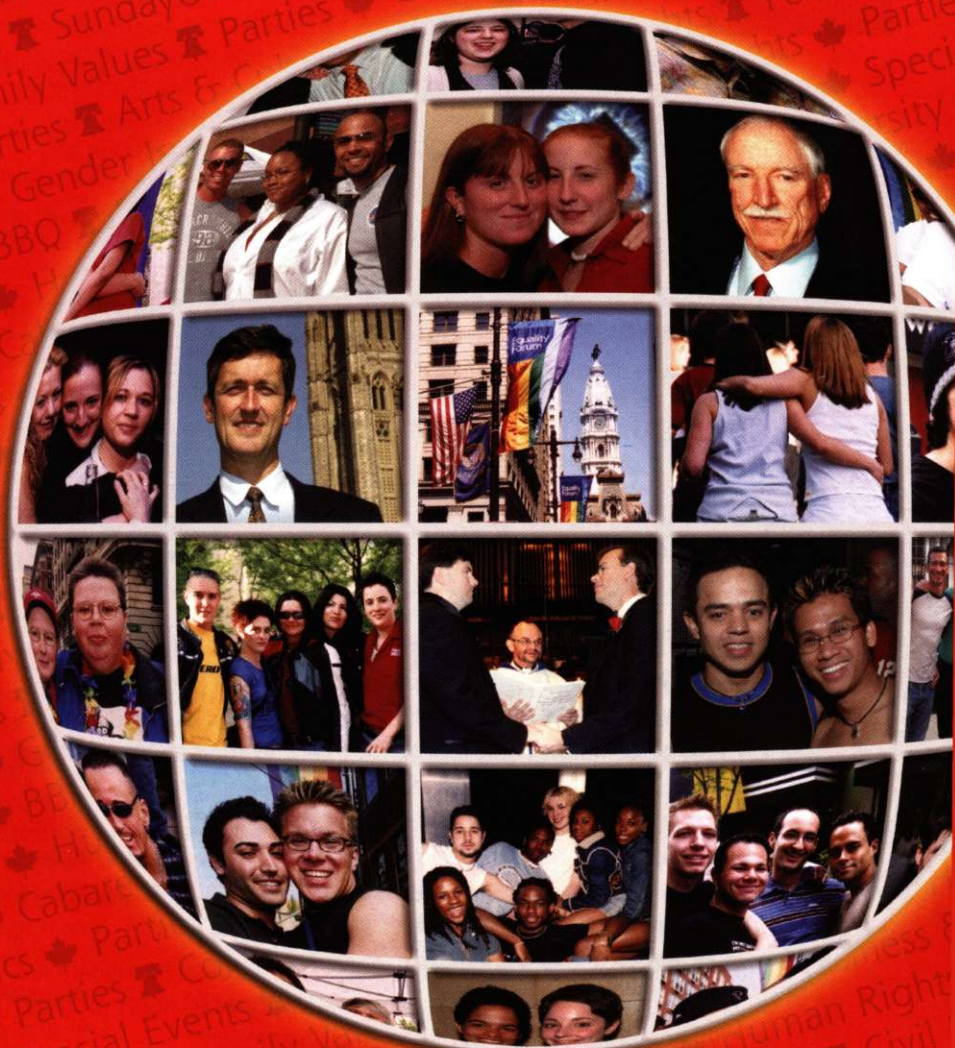


Equality Forum™

The Global GLBT Event

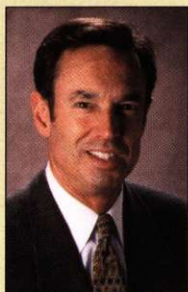
April 26 – May 2 in Philadelphia

www.equalityforum.com



2004 Featured Nation: CANADA

Equality Forum



Welcome! This year Equality Forum salutes Canada and spotlights the many advances the country has made over the years to ensure civil rights for its GLBT citizens. While we share a common continent and culture, Canada leads with national discrimination protection, same sex marriage rights and domestic partner benefits for gays and lesbians.

Nineteen executive directors of major GLBT organizations and more than 20 prominent Canadians gather this week in Philadelphia. Panels encompass issues affecting GLBT culture, including the not-to-be-missed "Presidential Election 2004," "From Monarchy to Equality," and the annual "International Gay and Lesbian Leaders Symposium." In addition, the gay-themed musical fairy tale *Zanna, Don't!* premieres at Philadelphia's preeminent performing arts venue, The Kimmel Center.

All of these events, plus parties, our BB"Q," Canadian Cabaret and our annual SundayOUT! festival, are outlined on the following pages.

We at Equality Forum hope to inspire and educate you. Please join us in Philadelphia, the birthplace of freedom, to celebrate our international GLBT community and our march to equality.

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink.

Malcolm Lazin
Executive Director
Equality Forum



Equality Forum is the largest regional, national and international Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) civil rights forum, working to create understanding about homophobia and its multifaceted impact on individuals, families and society. Each year, in addition to promoting and discussing GLBT organizations and issues, Equality Forum highlights a Featured Nation and explores that country's GLBT culture, social issues and advancements in civil rights. Equality Forum embraces a number of projects throughout the year, including the production of the documentary films *Gay Pioneers* and *JIM IN BOLD*.

Equality Forum is a nonprofit and 501(c)(3) organization headquartered in Philadelphia, the site of some of the earliest gay civil rights protests and where today the pursuit of equality is paramount.

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The Voice of the People is the Voice of God at Beth Ahavah

Presidential Election 2004 at the National Constitution Center

From Monarchy to Equality at the National Constitution Center

Over the Rainbow: Seeking Queer Asylum in America at the International House

O' Canada Welcome Party at Woody's

Friday, April 30 11

Pure: The Works of David Hilliard and Ryan McGinley at The University of the Arts

International Gay and Lesbian Leaders Symposium at WHY studios

Zanna, Don't! at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Over the Rainbow: Seeking Queer Asylum in America at the International House

Shabbat Speaker Series and Services at Beth Ahavah

Jet Set at Shampoo

Saturday, May 1 12-18

Pure: The Works of David Hilliard and Ryan McGinley at The University of the Arts

Chumley and Carlota's May-Day! May-Day! City and River Tour departing from the Reading Terminal Market

Gray Gays at the Prince Music Theater

International Business Colloquium at the Prince Music Theater

Reinvigorating the Grassroots: Inside and Outside Strategies at Temple University Center City

7th Annual Jim Wheeler International Youth Panel at the Prince Music Theater

Quest for GLBT Legal and Public Recognition in Central Africa at Temple University Center City

Saturday Programming at Temple University Center City 14-15

GLBT Tourism in Canada at the Prince Music Theater

Philadelphia Gryphons Rugby Football Club v. the New York City Gotham Knights at George W. Pepper Field

Gay and Lesbian World Travel EXPO at the Wyndham Philadelphia

BB"Q" at Kahn Park

International Business Colloquium Dinner at the Independence Visitor Center

Canadian Cabaret at the Prince Music Theater

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SundayOUT! in the "gayborhood"

Closing Party at a location TBA

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Ticket Information

For the latest information on Equality Forum 2004 tickets and events, plus a chance to win travel prizes, visit us online at www.equalityforum.com.

♣ International Programs

Representatives from our Featured Nation, Canada, participate in a number of programs, which are marked with a maple leaf icon next to the title.

FREE Free Admission

All panels, BB"Q" and SundayOUT! are open to the public, free of charge, and are marked with an icon. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Equality Forum VIP Pass

A \$100 pass covers admission to all parties, programs and events and includes an orchestra seat for *Zanna, Don't!* on Friday, April 30*. Passes can be purchased at The Kimmel Center Box Office, Broad and Spruce Sts.; by calling Ticket Philadelphia at 215-893-1999; or online at www.ticketphiladelphia.org.

*International Business Colloquium Dinner and the PBI/CLE accredited course are not included in this price.

Invitation Only

Equality Forum Kickoff Party

♿ Handicap Accessible

See programs with icon.

Special Events Admission

April 29 – **Happy Hour** at Mixto.

Admission: \$5.

April 29 & 30 – *Over the Rainbow: Seeking Queer Asylum in America* at the International House.

Admission: \$12 general/
\$10 students.

April 29 – **O' Canada Welcome Party** at Woody's.
Admission: \$5.

April 29 – **Gay Marriage: PBI/CLE Course** at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Center. For information visit www.pbi.org or call 1-800-247-4724.

April 30 – **Zanna, Don't!** at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts.
Admission: \$35 & \$50. Tickets available at The Kimmel Center Box Office, Broad and Spruce Sts.; by calling Ticket Philadelphia at 215-893-1999; or online at www.ticketphiladelphia.org.

April 30 – **Jet Set** at Shampoo.
Admission: \$15.

May 1 – Chumley and Carlota's May-Day! May-Day! City and River Tour departing from the Reading Terminal Market.
Admission: \$25.

May 1 – **International Business Colloquium Dinner** at the Independence Visitor Center.

Admission: \$200. Tickets can be purchased at The Kimmel Center Box Office, Broad and Spruce Sts.; by calling Ticket Philadelphia at 215-893-1999; or online at www.ticketphiladelphia.org.

May 1 – **Canadian Cabaret** at the Prince Music Theater.
Admission: \$15. Tickets can be purchased at Upstages Box Office at the Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut St. or by calling 215-569-9700.

May 1 – **Upstairs/Downstairs Youth Party** at William Way Community Center.
Admission: \$5.

May 1 – **Girl Fever** at Sisters.
Admission: \$10.

May 1 – **Liberation** at the Trocadero.
Admission: \$20 at the door. Advance tickets available for \$15 at The Kimmel Center Box Office, Broad and Spruce Sts.; by calling Ticket Philadelphia at 215-893-1999; by visiting www.ticketphiladelphia.org; or at Afterwords, 218 South 12th St.

May 2 – **Closing Party** at a location TBA.
Admission: \$5.

Travel

Event and Party Locations

Travel Discounts

US Airways Airfare

First/Envoy Class or Lowest Applicable Published Fares: 5% off; 10% off with 60-day advance ticketing. All other rules and restrictions apply.

Unrestricted Applicable "Y"

Published Fare Types or B8US/B4AUS Fares:

10% off with 7-day advance ticketing; 15% off with 60-day advance ticketing. All other rules and restrictions apply.

Travel discounts are valid for roundtrip flights from April 23 to May 5, 2004.

Call 1-877-874-7687 and refer to **Gold File No. 88112968**.

Hotel Accommodations

Mention Equality Forum and receive special rates at:

Doubletree Hotel Philadelphia

215-893-1600 or 800-222-TREE

Hampton Inn

215-665-9100 or 1-800-HAMPTON

Radisson Plaza/Warwick

Hotel Philadelphia

215-735-6000

or 1-800-333-3333

Hilton Garden Inn

215-923-0100

or 1-800-HILTONS

To book your travel online or for additional information on hotels, visit www.equalityforum.com.

Event Locations

Congregation Beth Ahavah
8 Letitia Street

George W. Pepper Field
84th & Lindbergh Streets

Independence Visitor Center
6th & Market Streets

International House
3701 Chestnut Street

Kahn Park
11th & Pine Streets

National Constitution Center
525 Arch Street

Prince Music Theater
1412 Chestnut Street

Reading Terminal Market
12th & Filbert Streets

Temple University Center City
1515 Market Street, 3rd Floor

The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
Southwest corner of Broad & Spruce Streets

The University of the Arts
211 South Broad Street,
14th & 15th Floors

Wanamaker Building/
Pennsylvania Bar Institute
Juniper & Market Streets,
10th Floor

WHYY
150 North 6th Street

Wyndham Philadelphia
at Franklin Place
17th & Race Streets

Party Locations

Mixto
1141-43 Pine Street

Shampoo
Between 7th & 8th
on Willow Street

Sisters
1320 Chancellor Street

Trocadero
1003 Arch Street

William Way Community Center
1315 Spruce Street

Woody's
202 South 13th Street



Pure: The Works of David Hilliard and Ryan McGinley

10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Sol Mednick Gallery & Gallery 1401, The University of the Arts, 211 South Broad Street, 14th & 15th Floors. **FREE**



"The Classic" by David Hilliard

In collaboration with The University of the Arts, Equality Forum presents the photographic works of **Ryan McGinley** and **David Hilliard**. Ryan McGinley comes to us following his successful 2003 solo exhibit at New York's Whitney Museum. Recognized with a front-page feature in the January 2003 Sunday Style section of *The New York Times*, McGinley was also named one of *Out* magazine's "2003 Top 100." A lecturer and faculty member at both Yale and Harvard, David Hilliard has exhibited in numerous solo and group shows in the United States and abroad. His photography depicts panoramic views of ordinary scenes set over a sequence of uniquely constructed images.

VIP Kickoff Party (Invitation only)
6 to 8 p.m., *Conversation Hall*
in City Hall.

NBC 10 hosts the Equality Forum 2004 opening reception. Special thanks to **Governor Ed Rendell, Mayor John F. Street, Councilman Frank DiCicco, Councilman Jim Kenney, Commerce Director James Cuorato, State Senator Vincent Fumo, State Representative Marie Lederer**, and NBC 10's **Dennis Bianchi** and **Jo Anne Wilder**.

Gay Pioneers

Screening: 8:30 to 9 p.m.,
Q&A: 9 to 9:30 p.m., *Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street.* ♿ **FREE**



Barbara Gittings



Frank Kameny

This film — produced by Equality Forum and directed by award-winning PBS documentary filmmaker Glenn Holsten — presents the pre-Stonewall story of Barbara Gittings, Frank Kameny and other GLBT civil rights activists who staged the first homosexual rights demonstrations in Washington, Philadelphia and New York from 1965 to 1969. **Malcolm Lazin** moderates a question and answer session with **Barbara Gittings, Frank Kameny** and **Glenn Holsten**, following the screening.

Pure: The Works of David Hilliard and Ryan McGinley

See page 6 for details.

5th Annual International Family Values Panel

7 to 8:15 p.m., Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street. ♿ **FREE**



Evan Wolfson



Kevin Bourassa, Joe Varnell



Sandra Heath, Alisha Toby

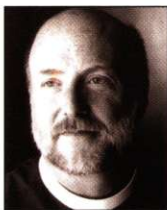
This program focuses on gay and lesbian marriage and family.

Moderator: Evan Wolfson, Director, **Freedom to Marry Project**.

Panelists: Canadians **Kevin Bourassa** and **Joe Varnell**, the first gay couple to marry in North America; **Sandra Heath** and **Alisha Toby**, parents and plaintiffs in the New Jersey challenge for marriage equality; and **David Strah**, father of two children and author of *Gay Dads*.

7th Annual International Religious Colloquy

8:30 to 9:45 p.m., Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street. ♿ **FREE**



Reverend Barry Stopfel



Faisal Alam

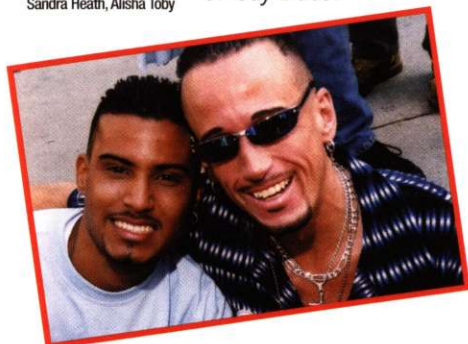


Reverend Brent Hawkes

Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Islamic leaders discuss religion and the GLBT community, including the roots of religious homophobia, changing attitudes toward gay parishioners, ordaining gay clergy and officiating at gay marriages.

Moderator: Reverend Barry Stopfel, the first openly gay ordained Episcopalian priest.
Panelists: Rabbi Linda Holtzman, faculty, **Reconstructionist Rabbinical College**; **Faisal Alam**, Director,

Al-Fatiha Foundation; **Reverend Brent Hawkes**, Senior Pastor, **Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto**; and **Kevin Simpson**, President, **Dignity Canada**.



Pure: The Works of David Hilliard and Ryan McGinley

See page 6 for details.

7th Annual International Media Panel 🍁

7 to 8:15 p.m., Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street. ♿ **FREE**

This program, presented in collaboration with **GLAAD** and **NLGA**, provides an all-lesbian perspective on the ways in which the media perceives, covers and shapes attitudes about the GLBT community.



Renée Olbert



Gail Shister



Cathy Renna

Moderator: Professor Katherine Sender, the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania.

Panelists: Renée Olbert, news director, anchor and producer with Canadian **PrideVision TV**; Gail Shister, television columnist for **The Philadelphia Inquirer** and former Vice President, **NLGA**; and Cathy Renna, News Media Director, **GLAAD**.

Coalition Activism to Legislative Victory

8:30 to 9:45 p.m., Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street. ♿ **FREE**



Matt Forman



Nadine Smith



Steve Mershon

With hate crimes protection in 27 states and workplace protection in 14 states, legislative action is taking place at the state level. This panel explores the reasons why GLBT civil rights is a grassroots movement.

Moderator: Matt Forman, Executive Director, **National Gay & Lesbian Task Force**.

Panelists: Nadine Smith, Executive Director, **Equality Florida**; Steve Mershon, Executive Director, **New Jersey Lesbian and Gay Coalition**; and Geoffrey Kors, Executive Director, **Equality California**.



Pure: The Works of David Hilliard and Ryan McGinley

See page 6 for details.

Gay Marriage:

PBI/CLE Accredited Courses 🍁

1:30 to 5 p.m., Pennsylvania Bar Institute Center, Wanamaker Building, Juniper and Market Streets, 10th Floor. Admission: \$159 member PA or any county bar association; \$179 non-member; \$50 non-lawyer (no credit).



Stacey Sobel



Hon. Svend Robinson

In collaboration with the Pennsylvania Bar Institute/Continuing Legal Education (PBI/CLE), the **Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights** and the **Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund**, Equality Forum offers this 3-credit course on gay marriage. Credits are accepted for CLE requirements by most states.

Keynote Speaker: **Evan Wolfson**, Executive Director, **Freedom to Marry Project**.

Panel I – Civil Unions & Gay Marriage: A Spectrum of Institutions

Moderator: **Stacey Sobel**, Executive Director, **Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights**.

Panelists: **John Culhane**, Law Professor, **Widener University School of Law**; the **Hon. Svend Robinson**, member,

Canadian Parliament; and **Carlos Ball**, Law Professor, **Penn State Dickinson School of Law**.

Panel II – Crossing Lines/Crossing Borders: Civil Unions, Gay Marriage and Recognition of Rights



Douglas Elliott

Moderator: **Douglas Elliott**, President, **International Lesbian & Gay Law Association**.

Panelists: **Kevin Bourassa** and **Joe Varnell**, the first gay couple to marry in North America; **Paula Ettelbrick**, Executive Director, **International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission**; **Adam Aronson**, Staff Attorney, **Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund**.

Happy Hour

5 to 8 p.m., *Mixto*, 1141-43 Pine Street.

Admission: \$5.

See page 20 for details.

Vox Populi, Vox Dei: The Voice of the People is the Voice of God

7 p.m., *Beth Ahavah*, 8 Letitia Street. **FREE**

Larry Frankel, Legislative Director, **ACLU of Pennsylvania**, addresses issues on the separation of church and state and their impact on the GLBT community.

Thursday continued →

Presidential Election 2004

7 to 8:15 p.m., National Constitution Center, Independence National Historical Park, 525 Arch Street. ♿ **FREE**



Patrick Guerriero

Held in collaboration with the **National Constitution Center**, this panel considers the impact of GLBT civil rights on the 2004 federal elections.



Cheryl Jacques

Moderator: **Chuck Wolfe**, Executive Director, **Victory Fund**.
Panelists: **Patrick Guerriero**, Executive Director, **Log Cabin Republicans**; **Kate**

Kendell, Executive Director, **National Center for Lesbian Rights**; **Andy Tobias**, Treasurer, **Democratic National Committee**; and **Cheryl Jacques**, Executive Director, **Human Rights Campaign**.

Over the Rainbow: Seeking Queer Asylum in America

8 p.m., International House, 3701 Chestnut Street. Admission: \$12; \$10 students. For tickets, call 215-895-6544 or e-mail ihousetix@yahoo.com.

Attend the world premiere of Jeffrey Solomon's theater production about the sexual-minority refugees who apply for asylum in the U.S. each year.

From Monarchy to Equality 🍁

8:30 to 9:45 p.m., National Constitution Center, Independence National Historical Park, 525 Arch Street. ♿ **FREE**



Gilles Marchildon

How did the legacy of the monarchists, who fled Philadelphia after the Revolutionary War, eclipse the U.S. in its fulfillment of civil rights for GLBT citizens? Find out in this session.



Glen Murray

Moderator: **Gilles Marchildon**, Executive Director, **Egale**, Canada's leading GLBT civil rights organization.

Panelists: **Mayor Glen Murray**, **City of Winnipeg**; **Kyle Rae**, **City Councillor of Toronto**; and the **Hon. Svend Robinson**, member, **Canadian Parliament**.

Dining Out For Life

More than 175 restaurants participate, donating 33% of the cost of each meal to ActionAIDS for people living with HIV/AIDS. For a restaurant listing, visit www.diningoutforlife.com or call 1-877-EAT4LIFE.

O' Canada Welcome Party 🍁

10 p.m. to 2 a.m., Woody's, 202 South 13th Street. Admission: \$5.

See page 20 for details.

Pure: The Works of David Hilliard and Ryan McGinley

See page 6 for details.

International Gay and Lesbian Leaders Symposium

10 a.m. to Noon, **WHYY**,
150 North 6th Street. ♿ **FREE**



Tammy Baldwin



David Tseng

This 9th annual program airs live on National Public Radio (NPR) affiliate **WHYY**.

Moderator: Marty Moss-Coane, host of NPR's *Radio Times*.

Panelists: the **Hon. Svend Robinson**, member, **Canadian Parliament**; the **Hon. Tammy Baldwin**, the first openly lesbian **U.S. Congresswoman**;

David Tseng, Executive Director, **PFLAG**; and **Nadine Smith**, Executive Director, **Equality Florida**.

Over the Rainbow: Seeking Queer Asylum in America

See page 10 for details.

Shabbat Speaker Series and Services

8 p.m., **Congregation Beth Ahavah**,
8 Letitia Street. **FREE**

Zanna, Don't! Pre-Broadway Premiere

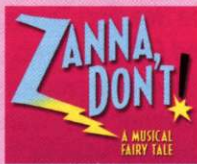
8 p.m., **The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**, 260 South Broad Street. Tickets: \$35 & \$50, available at **The Kimmel Center Box Office**, Broad and Spruce Streets; by calling Ticket Philadelphia at 215-893-1999; or by visiting www.ticketphiladelphia.org. ♿



Original off-Broadway Cast

Photo by Joan Marcus

Don't miss this hip, gay-themed musical fairy tale before it hits Broadway! Set in Heartsville USA, a place where heterosexual love dare not speak its name, the play's off-Broadway run starred *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*'s Jai Rodriguez. **Zanna Don't!** won Broadway.com's "Favorite New off-Broadway Musical Award," GLAAD's "Outstanding New York Theatre Award" and has received four Drama Desk Award nominations!



Jet Set

9 p.m. to 2 a.m., **Shampoo**, Willow Street between 7th and 8th Streets. Admission: \$15.

See page 20 for details.

Temple University Center City presents 21 regional, national and international programs on Saturday, May 1 from noon to 5:45 p.m. See pages 14 and 15 for complete program listings and locations. 🍁 ♿ **FREE**

Pure: The Works of David Hilliard and Ryan McGinley

See page 6 for details.

Chumley and Carlota's May-Day! May-Day! City and River Tour

Noon and 2 p.m., Tours depart from the Reading Terminal Market, 12th and Filbert Streets. Admission: \$25. Tickets are available at Foster's Gourmet Cookware in the Reading Terminal Market.



Chumley and Carlota

Philly's dizziest duo, **Chumley** and **Carlota** take us sightseeing in a vintage WWII Duck! Hear some juicy

Philadelphia gossip and brush up on your history while this amphibious trip drives into the Delaware River. For more information, visit www.chumleyandcarlota.com.

Gray Gays

Noon to 1:15 p.m., *Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street.* ♿ **FREE**



Robert Gant

Whether you're gray or on the way, this panel offers insights into important issues affecting the mature GLBT community.

Moderator: Terry Kaelber, Executive Director, **Senior Action in a Gay Environment** (SAGE).
Panelists: Vince Grimm, Gables of Cape May County; **Robert Gant**, actor on *Queer as Folk*; and **Amber Holligaugh**, SAGE.

International Business Colloquium 🍁

1:30 to 2:45 p.m., *Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street.* ♿ **FREE**



Justin Nelson

This panel discusses the issues facing GLBT executives from the United States and Canada and their opportunities in international business.

Moderator: Justin Nelson, Co-founder, **National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce** (NGLCC).

Panelists: Jay Everett, Senior Vice President of Corporate Marketing, **Wachovia**; **Lynn Greer**, Co-Publisher, **Outlook Publishing**; **Louis Thomas**, Professor, **Wharton School of the**

University of Pennsylvania; and **Tom Culligan**, Co-Founder, **Second Cup**.

Reinvigorating the Grassroots: Inside and Outside Strategies

*1:30 to 2:45 p.m., Temple University
Center City, 1515 Market Street,
Room 322. FREE*



Steve Glassman

This panel, produced by the **Federation of LGBT Statewide Organizations**, explores opportunities for activists of all ages to become further involved in the LGBT political movement.

Moderator: **Steve Glassman**, the first openly gay Chair of the **Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission**.

Panelists: **Nadine Smith**, Executive Director, **Equality Florida**; **Dan Furmansky**, Executive Director, **Free State Justice Campaign of Maryland**; **Andrea Hildebrand**, Executive Director, **Kentucky Fairness Alliance**; and **Ross Levi**, Policy Director, **Empire State Pride Agenda**.

7th Annual Jim Wheeler International Youth Panel

*3 to 4:15 p.m., Prince Music Theater,
1412 Chestnut Street. & FREE*

This program, held in memory of Jim Wheeler — the gay teen, poet and subject of the film *JIM IN BOLD* — examines current issues facing GLBTQ youth.



Benjie Nycum



Lauren McCray

Moderator: **Benjie Nycum**, Founder, **Young Gay America**.
Panelists: **Ashley Olsen**, Wisconsin youth activist;
Lauren McCray, Delaware youth activist;
Shawn Burke, President, New Jersey's **Cherokee High School Gay-Straight Alliance**; **Ryan MacCarrigan**, Columbia University student activist.
Special Guest: **Susan Wheeler**, Jim Wheeler's mother.

Quest for GLBT Legal and Public Recognition in Central Africa

*3 to 4:15 p.m., Temple University
Center City, 1515 Market Street,
3rd Floor, Room 321. & FREE*



Julienne A. Mbong



Nicole E. Alemoka

This program, presented by the leading GLBT civil rights organization in Cameroon, explores the way GLBT issues are perceived by the government and the people of Central Africa.

Moderators: **Julienne A. Mbong**, President, and **Nicole E. Alemoka**, International Relations Coordinator, **Association Justice et**

Droit Pour Tous.

Saturday continued →

Regional Programming at Temple University Center City (TUCC)

Noon to 5:45 p.m., 1515 Market Street, 3rd Floor. ♿ FREE

Noon to 5:45 p.m.

Family Flag Project

Create a fabric panel to be sewn into a large rainbow flag that will travel the country to educate the public about GLBT life. See the six existing rainbow flags with over 250 panels on display. **3rd Floor Lounge.**

Noon to 1:15 p.m.

Coming Out Young (HAVEN)

A youth panel discusses personal coming-out stories, problems and triumphs and empowers other young people to make wise choices about coming out. **Room 314.**

Twentysomethings (SafeGuards)

Join this social discussion for gay/bisexual males aged 18 to 30 about dating, making friends, sex and community issues. **Room 315.**

Developments in Civil Marriage (HRC)

Learn about developments in the fight for civil marriage equality, including the progress of the Federal Marriage Amendment and the effects of the Massachusetts Goodridge case. **Room 316.**

Fifteen Years of GALA Visual Arts (GALA Visual Arts)

Enjoy an historical overview of GALA Visual Arts exhibitions from the last 15 years and a slide presentation of participating artists' works. **Room 320.**

Breast Health Awareness (Linda Creed Breast Cancer Foundation)

Get information on breast health, breast cancer and access to care for members of the LBT community, who are at higher risk for late breast cancer detection. **Room 321.**

1:30 to 2:45 p.m.

That's So Gay! (Mazzoni Center)

In this workshop for teachers, school staff or anyone who works with youth, learn how to effectively respond to anti-gay language and create positive change. **Room 314.**

Global GLBT Human Rights Movement (Amnesty International)

Learn more about the global GLBT human rights movement, how international human rights standards are being used to further GLBT rights, and the need for U.S. GLBT residents to engage in the global struggle. **Room 315.**

Marriage Equality (Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund)

This program offers useful tools for advocating on behalf of marriage equality. **Room 316.**

Wills and Living Wills (Justice Project)

GLBT individuals can empower themselves by preparing a valid will and living will. Get the information needed to complete these crucial planning documents. **Room 320.**

Reinvigorating the Grassroots: Inside and Outside Strategies (Federation of LGBT Statewide Organizations)

See page 13 for details. **Room 322.**

3 to 4:15 p.m.

Domestic Violence

(Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights)

Discuss issues of domestic violence and learn techniques for handling abusive situations. **Room 314.**

In The Spirit (Episcopal Coalition for Gay & Lesbian Outreach)

This "mini-retreat" helps participants find the spirit within, provides techniques for meditation, and offers insight into combining the spiritual and the sexual. **Room 315.**

Becoming Parents

(Philadelphia Family Pride)

This program provides valuable information to those considering parenthood through adoption, foster parenting, donor insemination or surrogacy. **Room 316.**

Gay-Friendly Workplaces (Justice Project)

Get an overview of the best practices for fostering workplace diversity as it relates to sexual identity and gender expression. **Room 320.**

Quest for GLBT Legal and Public Recognition in Central Africa

(Association Justice et Droit Pour Tous)

See page 13 for details. **Room 321.**

4:30 to 5:45 p.m.

Long-Term Relationships

(Gables of Cape May County)

Enjoy a lively interchange as Vince Grimm and Will Kratz of Cape May County, N.J. share the highs and lows of life as a long-term couple. The two have been together for more than 40 years. **Room 314.**

Transgender Health Services

(Mazzoni Center)

Staff and clients of the Mazzoni center discuss their experiences providing or receiving trans-specific health care. The program is designed for both health-care providers and lay people. **Room 315.**

Protecting Your Family

(Center For Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights)

This workshop reviews the legal documents that all GLBT couples should consider. Wills, powers of attorney and second-parent adoption papers are discussed. **Room 316.**

Communities From Within

(Men of All Colors Together)

Explore ways to build cohesion among various groups within the GLBT community. **Room 320.**

The State and the Community (OutFront)

Learn about the issues pursued by OutFront, along with recent developments in the City of Philadelphia. Panelists include government officials and OutFront Board Members. **Room 321.**



Saturday continued →

GLBT Tourism in Canada 🍁

**4:30 to 5:45 p.m., Prince Music Theater,
1412 Chestnut Street. ♿ FREE**



Darrell Schuurman



Jeremy Maunder

Panelists: **Jeremy Maunder**,
Coordinator for Partnerships and Travel
Education, **Canadian Tourism
Commission**; **Angus Praught**,
GayVan.com; and **Hélène Fortier**,
Tourisme Quebec.

Gay & Lesbian World Travel Expo 🍁

**Noon to 4 p.m., Wyndham
Philadelphia at Franklin Place,
17th and Race Streets.**

Admission: \$5. ♿

Now it's 12th year, this expo is a first for Equality Forum, offering a unique opportunity to learn about gay-friendly destinations, events and other experiences. Visit with a variety of tour operators, travel agents, cruise directors and hotel, destination and website representatives, all under one roof! The

one-day expo provides an opportunity to meet some of the people who help make the world a more welcoming place for gay and lesbian travelers. For more information, visit www.gaytravelnews.com.

Philadelphia Gryphons Rugby Football Club v. NYC Gotham Knights

**1 p.m., George W. Pepper Field, 84th
and Lindbergh Streets, Southwest
Philadelphia. FREE**



Philadelphia Gryphons Rugby Football Club

The Philadelphia Gryphons Rugby Football Club is the first gay-friendly men's rugby club in the Philadelphia area. For more information, visit www.pgrugby.org.



BB"Q" ♣

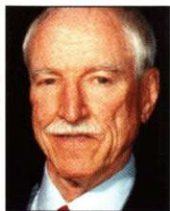
*5 to 8 p.m., Kahn Park,
11th and Pine Streets. **FREE***



Head to the "gayborhood" for our 3rd annual BB"Q." Enjoy classic barbecue and music by **Q102**. This event offers a great place to relax, meet friends and make new acquaintances. Special appearances by Canada's **The B-Girlz** and Platinum recording artist **Carole Pope**, plus *Queer as Folk* actor **Robert Gant**.

International Business Colloquium Dinner ♣

8 to 11 p.m., Independence Visitor Center, 6th and Market Streets. Admission: \$200. For tickets, visit [The Kimmel Center Box Office](#), Broad and Spruce Streets; call [Ticket Philadelphia](#) at 215-893-1999; or visit [www.ticketphiladelphia.org](#). Benefactor tables available. For information, call 215-732-3378.



James Hormel

Presented in collaboration with the **National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce**, the **Canadian Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce** and the **Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania**, the International Business Colloquium Dinner honors **James Hormel**, the first openly gay United States Ambassador, with Equality Forum's International Business Leadership Award. The **Hon. Martin**

Cauchon, former Attorney General of Canada, receives the 9th annual Tom Stoddard International Role Model Award. Pennsylvania **Governor Edward Rendell** is the Honorary Dinner Chair. **Sally Susman**, Senior Vice President of Global Communications, **The Estée Lauder Companies Inc.** and **Ron Ansin**, business leader and philanthropist, are the Dinner Co-Chairs.

Canadian Cabaret: Carole Pope ♣

8 to 9:15 p.m., Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street. Admission: \$15. Tickets available at [Upstages Box Office](#) at the Prince Music Theater or by calling 215-569-9700.



Carole Pope

With four Gold and two Platinum records, singer **Carole Pope** has earned numerous awards for her signature-style music. She has performed with both Laurie Anderson and Joni Mitchell and two of her songs appear on Showtime's *Queer as Folk* soundtrack.



Saturday continued →

Canadian Cabaret: The B-Girlz 🍁

10 to 11:15 p.m., Prince Music Theater,
1412 Chestnut Street. Admission: \$15.
Tickets available at Upstages Box
Office at the Prince Music Theater or
by calling 215-569-9700.



The B-Girlz

Canada's leading
drag troupe and
Provincetown favorites,
The B-Girlz have
appeared on *Queer as
Folk*, *Bravo* and the
Comedy Network.

They were also featured in two films.

Clubbing in the Gay Community

9 to 10:15 p.m., Trocadero,
1003 Arch Street. **FREE**



Tammy Anderson

This panel explores the
current atmosphere in
the club world, with a
focus on the role drugs
and drug abuse play in
the scene.

Moderator: Tammy

Anderson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of
Sociology and Criminal Justice,
University of Delaware.

Panelists: Eve Falcon, Los Angeles DJ;
Bill Piper, Director of National Affairs,
Drug Policy Alliance; and **Melissa
Martin**, National Training Coordinator,
DanceSafe.org.

Upstairs/Downstairs Youth Party

8 p.m. to 1 a.m., William Way
Community Center, 1315 Spruce Street.
Admission: \$5.

See page 20 for details.

Girl Fever

9 p.m. to 2 a.m., Sisters,
1320 Chancellor Street.
Admission: \$10.

See page 21 for details.

Liberation 🍁

10:30 p.m. to 5 a.m., Trocadero,
1003 Arch Street. Admission: \$20.
Advance tickets available for \$15 at
Afterwords, 218 South 12th Street or
at www.equalityforum.com.

See page 21 for details.

BAD BOY CLUB MONTREAL
BLACK & BLUE
2004 FESTIVAL 5-12 OCT
PHOTO: LANCE



Sunday Brunch

Kick off your SundayOUT! festivities at one of our official **SundayOUT! Brunch Spots**. Visit www.equalityforum.com for details on these restaurants:

Mixto

1141 Pine Street, 215-592-0363

Vallani

1229 Spruce Street, 215-790-9494

Woody's

202 South 13th Street, 215-545-1893



WOODY'S



SundayOUT! 🍁

11 a.m. to 6 p.m., the "gayborhood,"
12th and Locust Streets. **FREE**

Philadelphia's favorite and Pennsylvania's largest annual block party gets bigger and better every year. Browse the booths of more than 100 artisans and vendors. Visit the Canadian pavilion and you could **win a trip for two to Canada!** Enjoy live music and performances by a variety of Canadian entertainers, or just eat, drink and be merry while you mingle among the fabulous throngs. Special thanks to **Gloria Jackson, Managing Director's Office; Irene Benedetti, Councilman DiCicco's Office; 6th Police District; Steve Cohen; Chumley Singer and Marion Leary.**

Closing Party

6 to 10 p.m., at a location TBA.
Admission: \$5.

See page 21 for details.



PHILADELPHIA
The place that LOVES YOU BACK.
www.gophila.com

PHILADELPHIA
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
www.pcvb.org



Equality Forum Parties

Happy Hour

Thursday, April 29, 5 to 8 p.m., Mixto,
1141-43 Pine Street, Second Floor.

Admission: \$5.

Join friends for complimentary hors d'oeuvres, music and a cash bar in this favorite "gayborhood" restaurant.

O'Canada Welcome Party ♣

Thursday, April 29,
10 p.m. to 2 a.m.,
Woody's, 202 South 13th Street.
Admission: \$5.

Welcome our Featured Nation and meet guests from across North America and Europe, including a real Royal Canadian Mountie and other special visitors. Montréal's **Sheena Hershey** performs.

Jet Set @ Shampoo

Friday, April 30, 9 p.m. to
2 a.m., Shampoo, Willow
Street between 7th and
8th Streets.
Admission: \$15.

Join the cast of **Zanna,
Don't!** and **Jai
Rodriguez** from

Queer Eye for the Straight Guy at Philadelphia's largest nightclub. DJs spin on three dance floors!

Canadian Cabaret: The B-Girlz! ♣

Saturday, May 1, 10 to 11:15 p.m.,
Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut
Street. Admission, \$15. Tickets
available at Upstages Box Office at
the Prince Music Theater or by calling
215-569-9700.

Canada's leading drag troupe, The B-Girlz have appeared on Showtime's *Queer as Folk*, Bravo and the Comedy Network.

Canadian Cabaret: Carole Pope ♣

Saturday, May 1,
8 to 9:15 p.m.,
Prince Music
Theater, 1412
Chestnut Street.
Admission: \$15.
Tickets available at
Upstages Box
Office at the Prince
Music Theater or

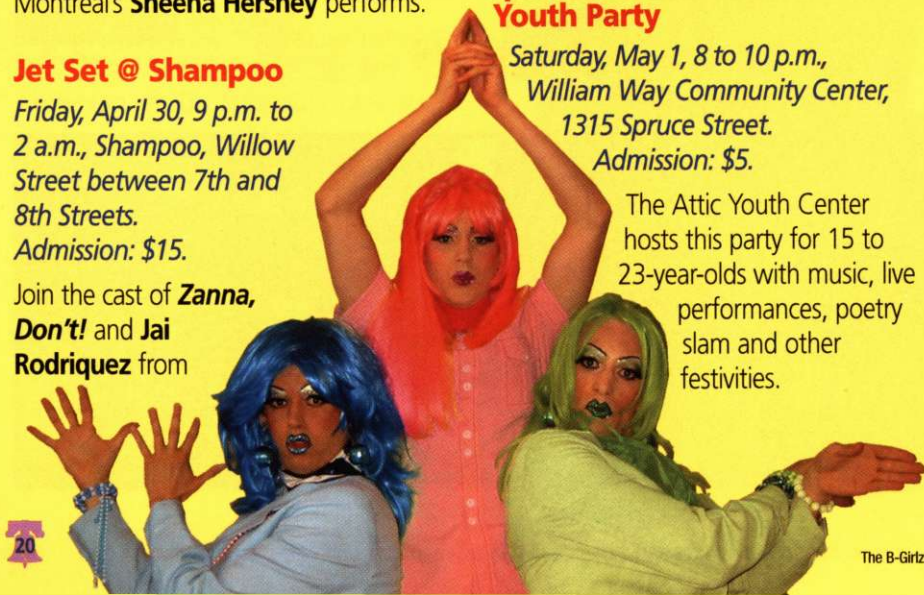
by calling 215-569-9700.

Winner of numerous awards, singer **Carole Pope** earned four Gold and two Platinum records and is known for her transgressive-style music.

Upstairs/Downstairs Youth Party

Saturday, May 1, 8 to 10 p.m.,
William Way Community Center,
1315 Spruce Street.
Admission: \$5.

The Attic Youth Center hosts this party for 15 to 23-year-olds with music, live performances, poetry slam and other festivities.



The B-Girlz

Girl Fever

Saturday, May 1, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.,
Sisters, 1320 Chancellor Street.
Admission: \$10.



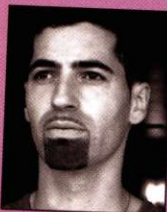
Eve Falcon

Join us for Equality Forum's primo women's dance party with Los Angeles DJ **Eve Falcon**. Eve spins regularly at LA's In-Crowd, Friction, Circus, Cobalt and Shine. In 2003, Eve spun at La Mariangola in Lima, Peru. This rising star received critical acclaim from D:Fuse and BPM Magazine for her Slowburn and Generations CDs. Eve's music is a favorite on SIRIUS.com, Internet Radio 2000 and Ideal Radio/Vibeflow.



Liberation

Saturday, May 1, 10:30 p.m. to 5 a.m.,
Trocadero, 1003 Arch Street.
Admission: \$20 at the door.
Advance tickets available for \$15 at
Afterwords, 218 South 12th Street.



Mark Anthony

Equality Forum's premier men's dance party happens at the Trocadero, the infamous former burlesque house! In collaboration with the **BBCM Foundation/Black & Blue Festival**, Equality Forum presents Montreal's **DJ Mark Anthony**, considered one of Canada's best. Mark Anthony spins at top-tier parties, including Montréal's Black & Blue main event and Divers/Cité with over 50,000 revelers. Outside Canada, he has spun for circuit parties in New York, Miami, Los Angeles, London, Paris, Barcelona and more!

Don't miss the **Clubbing Panel** at 9 p.m. at the Trocadero. Details on page 18.

Closing Party

Sunday, May 2, 6 to 10 p.m., at a
location TBA. Admission: \$5.

Help keep Equality Forum 2004 pumping at this annual closing event! The celebration bids farewell to our Canadian guests and closes a fabulous week of parties, programs and special events.

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